1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Provision of Irrigation Facility to land owned by SC/ST, etc.	57	2			59	69	24	0	0	93
	6143	6667			12810	2130	5081	30	91	7332

New Pension Scheme for senior citizens in A.P.

751. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of pension scheme unveiled by Government for senior citizens of the country;

(b) the details of senior citizens who are going to be benefited with the above scheme in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) whether there is any plan for extending this scheme to widows and physically challenged person; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) was launched on 19th November, 2007 under which pension is provided to a person who is 65 years or higher and belonging to a household below the poverty line according to the criteria prescribed by the Government of India. Rs. 200 per month per beneficiary will be provided to by way of Central Assistance under IGNOAPS.

(b) In Andhra Pradesh, 453230 persons are going to be benefited under IGNOAPS, in addition to the existing 466000 beneficiaries.

(c) and (d) A proposal is under consideration to provide pension to widows (18-59 years) and physically disabled (0-59 years) as well as to persons who are 60 years or higher and belonging to a household below the poverty line according to the criteria prescribed by the Government of India, by lowering the age limit from 65 years to 60 years under Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS).

Success of NREG Scheme

752. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme has not been found to be a success;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to effectively implement the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) No, Sir. National Rural Employment Guarantee Act provides for all egal guarantee for 100 days of employment in every financial year to

every rural household for doing unskilled manual work on demand. The Act was implemented in 200 district with effect from 2.2.2006. During the year 2006-07, a total of 2.12 crore household demanded employment out of which 2.10 crore were provided employment. 130 additonal districts were covered under the Act from 1.4.07. During the current financial year (up to January, 2008) 2.82 crore households have demanded employment out of which 2.80 crore have been provided employment. The objective, of the Act is, therefore, being achieved.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Action taken for effective implementation of the Scheme are as under:

(i) Generating Awareness

Various steps have been taken to generate awareness about NREGA. Gram Sabhas and one day orientation of all Sarpanches at the Block level have been held. Local Vernacular newspapers, radio, TV, films and cultural forums are being used for the purpose. Leaflets and brochures in local language are being provided. Village camps have been organized by the District teams and NGOs and Self help Groups are being associated in the awareness generation.

(ii) Staffing/Training

Capacity building for rural development functionaries and Panchayati Raj functionaries is an essential pre-requisite for better implementation of rural development programmes. NREGA guidelines provide that a dedicated Gram Rojgar Sahayak-(GRS) should be appointed in each Gram Panchayat and a dedicated Programme officer should be appointed at Block level for NREGA works besides other technical and non-technical staff. So far 79249 GRS and 1685 Programme Officers have been recruited. Besides, 11464 technical staff and 10109 other non-technical staff has also been recruited for NREGA. Regarding training, so far 927766 Panchayati Raj functionaries, 177031 Government functionaries and 246655 Members of Vigilance and Monitoring Committees (VMC) have been trained under NREGA.

(iii) People's participation

(i) Village level monitoring committees have been set up and trained.

(ii) Non Governmental Organisations are being involved for awareness generation under NREGA.

(iii) Gram Sabhas are held.

(iv) Vigilance and Monitoring

(i) Implementation of NREG Act is monitored on regular basis. Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been set up at State as well as district levels. Local MPs are the members of the district Vigilance and Monitoring Committees. Village level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have also been set up for local monitoring. Members of the Central Employment Guarantee Council also undertake field visits to various districts. National Level Monitors (NLMs) and Area Officers visit various districts to oversee the progress of the Act.

(ii) Muster Roll verification has to be done in a campaign mode and consolidated reports sent to the Ministry.

(v) Transparency

(i) States have been directed to conduct social audit of each and every work of NREGA within three months. Members of the Central Employment Guarantee Council are actively participating in the Social Audit. Social Audit has been done in 53911 Gram Panchayats.

(ii) A Citizen Information Board has been introduced. This board is to be displayed at all prominent places. This will enable the local community to know the works being undertaken under NREGA and would also facilitate the process of spreading awareness about the programme.

(vi) MIS

A comprehensive Web-based MIS *www.nrega.nic.in* has been implemented which places all data in public domain. This data pertains to workers' entitlements like registration, Job cards, muster rolls, employment demanded and provided; work data like sanctioned shelf of works, work estimates, work in progress, measurement; Financial indicators like funds available/spent, amount paid as wages, materials and administrative expenses. Data software has been engineered for cross verification of records and for report generation.

NREG Scheme in Punjab

753. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have upto 31st December, 2007 enrolled themselves for employment under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme in Punjab, district-wise; and

(b) the number of persons given employment under the scheme till 31st December, 2007 district-wise in the State and the expenditure incurred thereon for the year 2007-08 till 31 st December, 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) and (d) The basic unit used under NREGA is household and not an individual. Disrict wise details of the number of households issued job cards, households provided employment and cumulative expenditure incurred up to 31.12.2007 is given at the Statement.

Statement

District-wise details of the number of households issued job-cards, provided employment and cumulative expenditure incurred upto 31.12.07 *under NREGA*

SI. No.	Name of the district	Number of households issued job cards up to 31st December, 2007	Number of households provided employment up to 31st December, 2007	Cumulative expenditure (in Rs. lakhs) up to 13st December, 2007
1	Hoshiarpur	42349	16804	879.14
2	Amritsar	22545	10532	378.61
3	Jalandhar	11967	0	1.44
4	Nawanshahr	4002	980	18.55